AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 5-13, 17 and 19 without prejudice or waiver as to the underlying subject matter. Please amend claims 14-16,18, 20 and 23 and add claims 24-28 as follows:

1-13.   **(Canceled)**

14.   **(Currently Amended)** A <u>computer-implemented</u> method for developing a request for proposal ~~and a~~ <u>or</u> ~~responding~~ proposal, comprising:

generating ~~at a first device~~ <u>by a computer</u> a<u>n</u> ~~first~~ overlay ~~representing the~~ <u>corresponding to a</u> request for proposal <u>or proposal</u>, the ~~first~~ overlay including <u>a</u> reference[[s]] to a ~~database for~~ text segment[[s]] <u>in a database</u> associated with ~~selected~~ <u>an</u> element[[s]] <u>selected by a user for inclusion in the request for proposal or proposal</u>, ~~the generating including~~

~~receiving an indication of document function; and~~

~~associating the appropriate grammatical mood with at least one referenced text segment based on the indicated document function;~~

<u>wherein the text segment is one of a plurality of text segments associated with the element, each of the plurality of text segments having a different grammatical construction to reflect a different document function, and</u>

<u>wherein only one of the plurality of text segments is referenced in the overlay in association with the element based on an indication of document function settable by the requester through a graphical user interface</u>

~~sending the first overlay to a second device; and~~

~~receiving at the first device a second overlay from the second device, the second overlay representing the responding proposal to the request for proposal, the second overlay comprising a modified version of the first overlay.~~

15.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14, wherein the ~~generating the first overlay comprises:~~

~~receiving the~~ document function indication ~~of~~ reflects a request for proposal ~~by an owner to a design-builder;~~, and

~~associating~~ the referenced text segment ~~references with text segments that~~ uses the imperative mood ~~appropriate for the request for proposal by an owner to a design-builder~~.

16.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, wherein the request for proposal is by an owner to a design-builder, and the referenced text segment ~~references are associated with text segments prefaced with language~~ utilizes a grammatical construction similar ~~in mood and style~~ to that of the ~~phrase~~ language "Design and select materials to provide…".

17.   (Canceled)

18.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~17~~ 15, wherein the request for proposal is by a design-builder to a sub-contractor, and the referenced text segment ~~references are associated with text segments prefaced with language~~ utilizes a grammatical construction similar ~~in mood and style~~ to that of the ~~phrase~~ language "Provide…".

19.   (Canceled)

20.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~19~~ 14, wherein the ~~generating the second overlay comprises:~~

~~receiving a~~ document function indication ~~of~~ reflects a proposal[[;]], and

~~associating~~ the referenced text segment ~~references with text segments that~~ uses the indicative mood ~~appropriate for the responding proposal~~.

21.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the proposal is by a design-builder to an owner.

22.   **(Previously Presented)** The method of claim 20, wherein the proposal is by a sub-contractor to a design-builder.

23.   **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 20, wherein the <u>referenced</u> text segment ~~references are associated with text segments prefaced with language~~ <u>utilizes a grammatical construction</u> similar ~~in mood and style~~ to <u>that of</u> the ~~phrase~~ <u>language</u> "Construction will provide...".

24.   **(New)** The method of claim 14, wherein the generation of the overlay comprises storing in electronic form a representation of the selected element and a corresponding performance/prescriptive value specified by the user.

25.   **(New)** The method of claim 24, wherein the overlay corresponds to a request for proposal.

26.   **(New)** The method of claim 25, further comprising:

sending the overlay to a proposer; and

receiving a modified version of the overlay from the proposer, wherein the reference to the text segment in the overlay is modified to reference one of the plurality of text segments based on an indication of document function set by the proposer.

27.   **(New)** The method of claim 26, wherein the modified version of the overlay includes a representation of an additional element with the representation associated with the selected element, the additional element specified by the proposer and comprising a subset of the selected element and in accordance with the selected element's performance/prescriptive value.

28.   **(New)** The method of claim 26, further comprising:

retrieving from the database a first set of data corresponding to the sent overlay and a second set of data corresponding to the received modified overlay; and

displaying a responding proposal based on the first and second sets of data.